

#3/A

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2418.43US01

Tetsuyuki Kurata et al.

Application No.: 10/009,937

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: December 10, 2001

Group Art Unit: Unknown

For: PRETILT ANGLE MEASURING METHOD AND MEASURING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

1. A method for detecting a pretilt angle of an element in which the direction of orientation of molecules is twisted from a light incident side to light outgoing side, the method comprising:

measuring transmitted light intensity of light that has come from the light incident side for a plurality of light incident angles;

analyzing dependence of the measured transmitted light intensity for the plurality of light incident angles; and

determining the pretilt angle of the element based upon the analysis results.